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( Washington, DC) – Today Congressman Carnahan voted in favor of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to create or save 3.5 million jobs. With Missouri experiencing 7.3 percent unemployment and the having lost more than 600,000 jobs last month Congressman Carnahan believes the urgency to act now is critical.

President Barack Obama's job creation package will rebuild , making us more globally competitive and energy independent, and transforming our economy for long-term growth; give 95 percent of American workers an immediate tax cut; and invest quickly in the economy.

**“It will take time to turn this economy around, but I am confident that this package will make our economy stronger and more resilient,”** said Congressman Carnahan. **“This jobs and recovery plan will create or save 69,000 jobs in Missouri in fields including education, health care, research and construction. Americans have always come together in the face of challenges and we will once again with the swift and bold leadership of President Obama.”**

The Recovery package includes unprecedented accountability and transparency measures to help ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and effectively — including no earmarked projects and a new [recovery.gov](http://recovery.gov) website allowing Americans to track the investments.

**“This bill is not perfect, but what is important is that it will immediately begin to put Americans back to work”** said Carnahan. **“After meeting directly with concerned constituents it became clear that people want action, not perfection. We cannot afford to wait any longer.”**

**“This legislation makes bold investments in our short and long-term economic future including emerging technologies, which have sparked American ingenuity that have contributed to almost half of the growth in GDP over the past 50 years and have created jobs for hard-working Americans. Innovation like investing in green high-performance building technologies is important to reinvigorating our economy and putting people back to work.”**